

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

East Germany

REPORT

COUNTRY

Fall Exercise of the 9th Tank Div in the Zeithain Area

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TOPIC

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 17 November 1954

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REFERENCES

25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED
Information

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- At 1030 on 16 October 1954, six-wheel armored personnel carriers left the Zeithain training area toward Grossenhain. At noon, T-34/85 tank entered the von-der-Goltz Kaserne (1802) in Riesa. At 1700, 4 trucks towing 76.2-mm AT guns came from the direction of Grossenhain and proceeded toward the training grounds.

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- On 17 October the following columns came from the direction of Riesa and proceeded toward Grossenhain:

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0930. Six-wheel armored personnel carriers
Four-wheel armored personnel carriers
BA-64 armored scout car

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About 1100. Approximately 18 tank trucks

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- At 1130 on 17 October, 5 trucks with 4 x 57-mm AT guns and one 85-mm AT gun left the Zeithain training area toward Riesa.

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4. At 0600 on 18 October, tanks were entrained at the Riesa railroad station. At 1500, a shipment of 7 JS-2 tanks, 3 JSU-122 guns, 2 trucks with barrels, 2 tank trucks, 1 repair shop truck, 2 armored personnel carriers and 2 boxcars with soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets left the Kuelknatz railroad station toward Elsterwerda.
5. Between 1730 and 1930 on 19 October, approximately 25 trucks [redacted] each occupied by 22 soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets, passed through Zeithain. On 22 October, the same trucks came from the direction of Gohlis, passed through Riesa and proceeded toward Oschatz.

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Comment. The movements, particularly those observed in the Zeithain area between 17 and 20 October, were connected with the fall exercise of the 9th Tank Div. [redacted] Elements of the artillery and the mortar regiment of the division had transferred to the area east of Zeithain as early as 13 October. [redacted] On 17 and 18 October, the bulk of the attack group of the division including elements of the 70th Gds Hvy Tank SP Regt apparently transferred to the assembly area which was assumed to be located northeast of Zeithain. No information is available on the exercise prior to the river crossing. The exercise apparently terminated on 20 October after elements of the 9th Tank Div had crossed the Elbe River, since tanks were observed entering the von-der-Goltz kaserne in Riesa, while other tanks and infantry left toward the Oschatz post.

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